

Fashionnews:

FOR HIM: Just received from Ted Lapidus 2-piece suits, wonderful new collection of Louis Ferand shirts, plain and patterned, also Ted Lapidus lambswool sweaters. FOR HER: Latest collection of Carol Hammer and Michael sweaters, also Ted Lapidus 3-piece wool suit.

Fashionwear for the Connoisseur
alleye adam
Tel Aviv Aladdin Square, Kfar Snavar

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy, scattered showers.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	70	9-19	9
Golan	65	6-11	9
Nahariya	65	6-11	9
Safed	71	3-8	8
Tel Aviv	62	9-18	15
Theriac	53	7-17	17
Nazareth	53	6-13	15
Afula	54	6-16	16
Shomron	54	6-12	10
Tel Aviv	46	7-17	15
D-G Airport	39	6-17	17
Jericho	58	5-18	18
Gaza	43	7-17	15
Beersheba	49	6-18	15
Eilat	21	6-20	20
Tiran Straits	48	10-19	19

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

President Ephraim Katzir yesterday received at Beit Hanasi Ambassador-Designate to Rumania Ahiss Gelfen and his wife; Prof. Nathan Rotenstreich, the head of the Higher Education Council; and Benjamin Katz and Bracha Kopshtin, who presented the president with the new hook of Yiddish hulaibies which they edited. In the evening the president received Premier Begin.

Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir yesterday met with French Deputy Georges Dayan at the Knesset.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin yesterday met with U.S. Senator Birch Bayh in his Knesset office.

Elihu Ellacher will speak on Israeli-Palestinian co-existence at the weekly meeting of Jerusalem Rotary Club at 1 p.m. at the YMCA today.

The Haifa Rotary Club will hold its annual general meeting at 1 p.m. at the Nof Hotel today.

ARRIVALS

Mr. Tawfik Toubi (Rakah), from a two-week visit to the Soviet Union.

Airport plans moves to remove bird hazard

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Him). — An agreement to begin a series of operations against the swarms of birds which plague the airport here was signed yesterday by the Airport Authorities, the Environmental Protection Service, and the Nature Reserves Authority.

The methods agreed on included hunting, the setting of traps, and the use of noise cannons and special loudspeakers to scare the birds away.

Youth threatens former girlfriend with a gun

NAZARETH (Him). — Jordan Valley police have been carrying on an intensive search for a 17-year-old Beersheba youth who yesterday tried to force his former girlfriend to return to him by threatening her with an Uzi submachine gun.

The youth, who was at one time an external pupil at Kibbutz Degania Aleph, came to the room of his former girlfriend yesterday morning and tried to renew the relationship by threatening the girl with a gun. He ran away after guards, who heard the girl's screams, came to the room.

Police are continuing the search with the aid of kibbutz members.

Dayan absent

(Continued from page one) that the special cabinet session had been decided on last night after Begin got back from Imailiya, and so Dayan was unable to attend for technical reasons.

Naor may have been indicating that by the time ministers got the official announcement, Dayan was not within reach, so he could obviously not have attended the cabinet session, for that technical reason.

Naor dismissed Elrich's suggestion that Dayan was not well and said: "Thank God he's healthy! There's no room for speculation whether he's in the country or out of the country. He's wherever he is. Premier Begin and the ministers know where he is. I don't see why people have to ask so many questions. No announcement was issued that he is out of the country. He's busy with his ministerial functions like all the members of the cabinet are, every hour of the day and every day of the year."

A 32-YEAR-OLD Jerusalem woman complained to police yesterday that she was raped by an acquaintance when she went to visit him in his flat.

Yamit protests proposed Sinai withdrawal

YAMIT. — Local residents demonstrated yesterday in front of Prime Minister Begin's office over a report that he had agreed to Egyptian sovereignty in the Rafiah area within three years, with only UN troops to supervise the Israeli settlements there.

The town was closed for three hours yesterday morning to protest the report. Residents parked their cars at the town gate to prevent vehicles entering or leaving. Children were not allowed to board their buses for a nearby junior high school, although army personnel were allowed to pass freely.

A few hundred construction workers from Rafiah were among those prevented from entering the town for work. Most of them seemed to be aware of the reason for the

blockade, and when asked, said they believed they would be able to find alternate work if that became necessary. One worker approved of the demonstration. "Israel took Yamit by force," he said, "let Egypt take it back the same way."

Following the strike, a delegation of local residents drove to Jerusalem to demonstrate at the premier's office and requested a meeting with him.

One demonstrator in Jerusalem suggested to journalists that at this point Yamit would be better off declaring itself an independent state, calling for war on Israel and allowing itself to be conquered. Then, he reasoned, Israel would be able to keep it as "occupied territory."

A few residents did not participate

in the demonstrations, claiming that it was already too late, that Yamit's fate had been sealed. One man said that he would definitely be willing to give up his apartment for a true peace. But he appeared to be in the minority here yesterday.

At the same time, final preparations were being made in the town's new commercial centre for tomorrow's official opening of the area's new Bank Hapoalim branch.

The bank's manager said yesterday that he had not yet decided whether to bring his fiancée here in a few months, as they had planned, because of the uncertain situation, but seemed excited when questioned by the possibility of being the manager of the first Israeli Bank Hapoalim branch in Egypt.

New law prohibits bribing converts

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

As of April 1, it will be illegal to offer or give money "or other material benefits" to induce someone to change his religion.

Likewise, it will be against the law to receive money or benefits for changing one's religion — or even agreeing to do so — or taking any action that would lead to someone else changing his religion.

In the first real anti-missionary legislation ever attempted here, the Knesset passed on second and final readings a private member's bill introduced by Yehuda Meir Abramowitz (Aguda).

The penalty for bribing someone to switch faiths will be five years' imprisonment or IL50,000 in fines, and for accepting such bribes, three years in jail or a fine of IL30,000.

Yehuda Meir, acting chairman of the Law Committee in the absence of David Glass, who is ill, ridiculed charges by Shulamit Aloni (CRM) that the Abramowitz Law was "anti-Christian" and could fan the flames of anti-Semitism abroad.

He pointed out that the law would make it a crime for anybody to encourage a Christian to become a Jew — just as it bars a person from encouraging a Jew to become a Christian.

"The law does not differentiate between one religious faith and another," Halevi declared.

According to Aloni, "allegations that missionaries are abetting emigration by offering money are absurd. If you look into the problem of emigration you will learn that the main force behind it is not Christian missionaries, but the Jewish Agency, with its inept methods of handling immigration and absorption matters."

She also argued that "the Jewish Agency itself is guilty of using material benefits to force people to convert to Judaism." She explained this by saying that immigrant rights and benefits are offered only to

Jews. In the case of immigrants from mixed marriages, where the mother is gentile, the applicant is told he must convert to qualify for those rights and benefits.

For Meir Pa'il (Shelli), the law is objectionable because "it is ironic that after witnessing assimilation during 2,500 years of dispersion among nations, we now feel so insecure in our own sovereign land that we must pass a law to ensure that nobody convinces us to change religions."

Pa'il also likened the activities of Habad (Lubavitch) activists here and abroad to Christian missionaries, "though their aim is not to change a person's religion but his way of life."

Also voting against the anti-missionary law was Mordechai Wirshubski (DMC). Abstainers included Moshe Shatz (Alignment), Moshe Amar (Mapam), Mordechai Elgrahli (DMC), Amnon Rubinstein (DMC) and Zalman Shoval (Likud).

Before approving the law, the House rejected a suggestion by Aloni that the vote be put off for a week. She said two interested organizations, the International League of Gentiles and the American Jewish Committee, had requested a meeting with the chairman of the Law Committee.

"The meetings were scheduled but had to be postponed because of Mr. Glass' illness," she said. "Since this is not a matter of life-and-death, I suggest that we hold off action on this today."

Before the poll, Halevi, a former High Court Justice, said: "There is absolutely no threat of religious persecution or discrimination in this law. At issue here is bribery. Just as bribery is abhorrent in justice and everyday life, so — the members of the committee felt — it is abhorrent in attempting to influence someone to change his religious convictions."

Knesset approves proposal to sell interest in Tefahot

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Knesset — by a vote of 37 to 20 — yesterday defeated an attempt by the Alignment to thwart the sale of the Government's share in Bank Tefahot to private investors.

Defending the proposed sale — though admitting "we still have no serious customer" — Minister of Housing and Construction Gideon Patt said, "It is clearly the position of this Government to reduce its interests in so many business enterprises. In fact, among the nine largest banks in this country, the Government owns part interest in five. We must rectify this situation."

Among the MPs voting against the Government proposal were Jacques

Amir (Alignment), who urged that not only should the divestiture plan be dropped, but the Government should proceed forthwith to buy up the interests of the private investors in Tefahot and gain full control of the bank.

Amir was also fearful that transfer of the Government's shares to private hands would endanger job security for the bank's 320 employees in its 10 branches.

Patt pledged that when the time for selling Tefahot is at hand, a special ministerial committee would be named to oversee the transaction to protect the rights of all interested parties — including bank employees, mortgage borrowers and persons holding savings deposits in Tefahot.

Israel's first int'l marathon

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel's first international marathon takes place on Saturday, when several world-class runners will be among more than 100 competitors from a dozen countries setting out on the 42.195-kilometre race around Lake Kinneret.

"The Sea of Galilee International Marathon," which will double as the first Israeli national championships in the event, starts at Capernaum and finishes at Eilat. Starting time is 11:30 a.m.

The race is being held under the auspices of the local Sports Federation, and has been recognized by the London-based International Amateur Athletics Federation.

The initiative for what is planned as an annual December 31 event, comes from the recently formed Israel Runners' Club. The event is being organized in conjunction with various local authorities in the Jordan Valley.

The race — which commemorates the exploits of a messenger who carried the news to Athens of a great Greek military victory at Marathon in 490 B.C. — has only been held here occasionally, and never with more than six participants.

The score of participants from abroad, all of whom are paying their own fares to Israel, will be augmented by some 25 foreign nationals working or studying in the country, organizing committee chairman David Elger told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

The overseas entries include South American marathon champion Carlos Godoy of Colombia, whose recent time of 2:13:07 hours is the fourth best in the world this year; West Germany's top performer in the event, Gunter Meike; and English international Max Coleby, who finished second in the famed Athens marathon in 1976. Three Kenyan internationals may also be among the competitors.

The 70-odd local participants — among them five women — will be a mixture of experienced runners and joggers. The 15 masters (over-40) competitors include Israel's long-distance walking star Shaul Ladani, who is expected to walk his way around the historic course. The oldest entry is Yosef Bein, aged 67.

Half of the IL125,000 budget for the race is being covered by the Sports Federation, with the government Sports Authority contributing another IL25,000, Elger reported.

Weizman: Autonomy offer final

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

The Government will not budge from its proposals on Judea and Samaria, Defence Minister Ezer Weizman reportedly told the Likud Knesset faction in Jerusalem yesterday evening. It will not offer anything more than the present elements of administrative autonomy.

It is understood that this position follows a near-agreement between Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egypt's President Anwar Sadat in Imailiya earlier this week. Sadat had been ready to agree to self-rule for the Arab Palestinians but his aides insisted on self-determination and Sadat accepted their advice.

The Israeli delegation believed more progress could have been reached had more time been available. Thus the agreement to form the political and military committees at the ministerial level was promising.

Weizman, who gave the Likud Knesset Members a colourful description of the trip, also reported other "positive developments" although not outstanding ones. Likud members were reluctant to reveal details of the closed meeting; The Defence Minister had warned he would give no more briefings if details are leaked.

Weizman appeared less optimistic at the Likud meeting than did Prime Minister Begin at the meeting with the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee. Weizman reportedly expects some hard negotiations but gave the impression he believes the peace talks have passed the point of no return.

However, the Egyptian President and his aides told the Israeli delegation they could not reach an agreement with Israel because of their commitment to the rest of the Arab world. They asked for Israeli concessions which could be presented to the other countries, Weizman reportedly said.

A report from Cairo that Egypt was ready to give Israel sovereignty over the Yamit area was not mentioned in the Likud faction meeting, The Post was told.

U.S. MAY MEDIATE

(Continued from page one)

the peace plan Premier Begin had taken to Imailiya.

The ministers were reported to have received the Begin and Weizman account of the Imailiya talks "with satisfaction." Some were, however, reportedly concerned about the fact that the Israeli and Egyptian positions remained poles apart on the substantive issues of borders and the Palestinians.

Well-placed sources told The Jerusalem Post last night that the gap could only be narrowed if President Sadat dropped his demands for total Israeli withdrawal to the pre-1967 frontiers and the creation of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The sources expressed hope that Sadat would still be forthcoming towards Israel's peace proposals, which pledge far-reaching withdrawals in Sinai and the Golan as well as the extension of local autonomy to Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

The same sources said that Sadat was flexible in Imailiya on Israel's quest for full-fledged peace treaties and the Gaza Strip. The sources expressed hope that Sadat would still be forthcoming towards Israel's peace proposals, which pledge far-reaching withdrawals in Sinai and the Golan as well as the extension of local autonomy to Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

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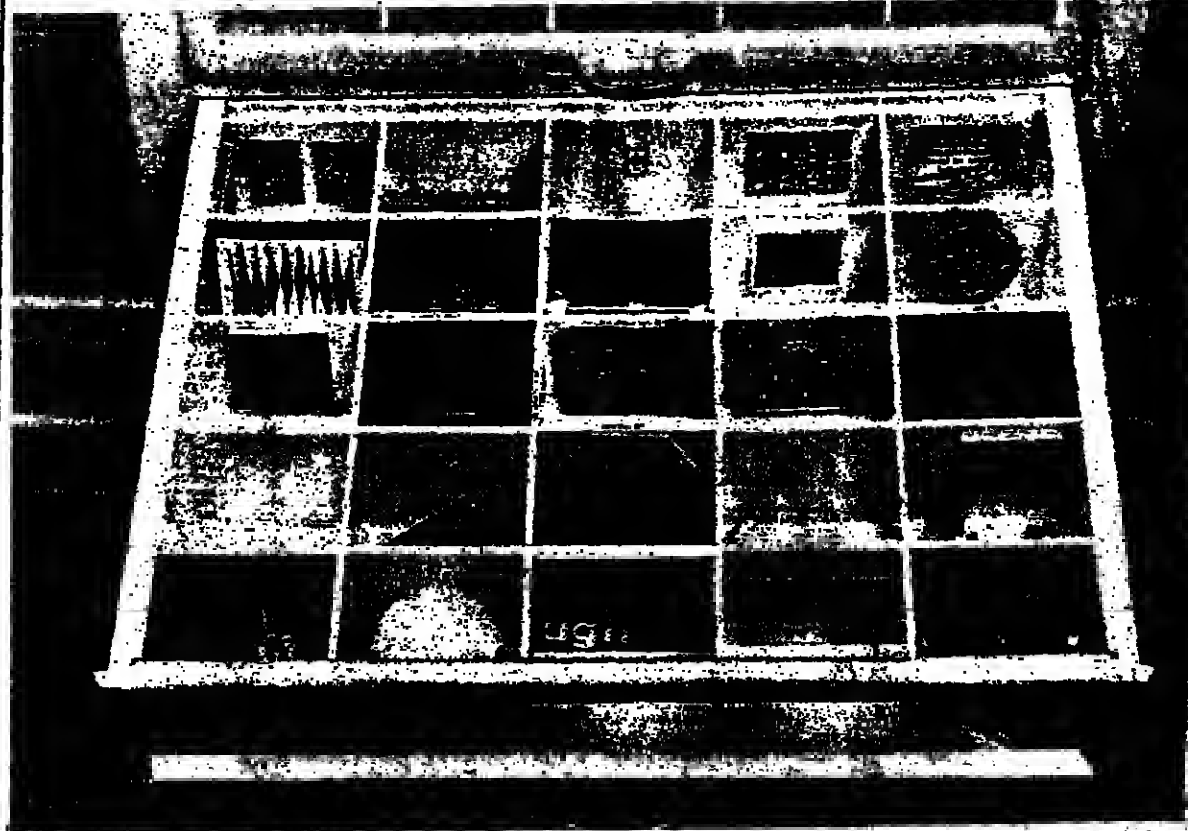
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One of the 20 drawers included in Swiss artist Herbert Distel's "Museum of Drawers," which goes on exhibition at the Israel Museum tonight. Distel spent seven years collecting the miniature works from over 500 known artists including Picasso, Vasarely, Andy Warhol, and Jasper Johns. The "world's smallest museum" includes miniature sculptures, paintings, photographs, and kinetic works.

31 Lebanese colonels resign

BEIRUT (Reuters). — The Lebanese cabinet has accepted the resignation of 31 army colonels under government plans to rebuild the armed forces, it was officially announced here.

The cabinet meeting on Monday night rejected the resignations of six army physicians and specialists.

Under a decree issued last February, army officers were invited to hand in their resignations, which the state would not necessarily accept. Prime Minister Selim al-Hoss said at the time that the

government hoped to have the skeleton of a viable officer corps ready for the reformed army by the end of this year.

By mid-May, Defence Ministry sources said 134 out of the army's 245 officers had resigned. They included former army commander Hanna Saad, 17 brigadiers and 48 colonels.

Officers whose resignations are accepted receive favourable retirement terms under the plan. Lebanon's army split into four factions during the two-year civil war.

Eban invited to Egypt

TEL AVIV. — Former Israeli foreign minister Abba Eban yesterday said he had been invited by President Anwar Sadat to visit Egypt.

The invitation was sent thru Eban's wife, Stella, who travels Imailiya on Sunday as goes Premier Menachem Begin during talks with the Egyptian leader.

Eban told a radio interview he would consult the Prime Minister before deciding whether to accept the invitation.

SETTLERS

(Continued from page one) heard of someone (proposing) to the accounts with his neighbour selling his mother."

Participants demanded a 1-scale settlement in the administrative territories and criticized the pre Government for not building a one permanent structure in Ji and Samaria and me "speaking" settlers into camps rather than establishing settlements. "The naked coming of failing to settle E Yisrael is covering with the 1 of caravans (for Gush Emu settlers). Let's remove the bluff then all of us will see the Kira, mude," Moshe Simon said.

Mr. Moshe Shamir (Likud leader of the Land of Israel Movement) said that "Whoever is on a wantonly discard settlements, which bear fruit and cannot understand Zionism is, what Erez Yisrael."

In another meeting yesterday evening with five residents of Ye Prime Minister Menachem Begin confirmed that Israel has conceded the issue of EGYPT's sovereignty over the Rafiah with only a UN presence.

Begin also detailed the Israeli withdrawal plan in the Sinai, he said initially called for a pull to a line from El Arish to Muhammad, Egyptian sovereignty over the remainder of Sinai came three years later.

Members of the group pressed Premier for a commitment or announcement that he made who visited here during Succot to develop a city of 100,000 people here. Y they asked him if Yamit would be developed under Egyptian Begin at first did not answer, adding to one participant in meeting, but when pressed, E said that it is a subject that will be discussed.

Yamit residents were called meeting last night at 9:30 at Yamit Auditorium for a report to meeting.

In New York yesterday, E. Meir Kahane, head of the Jewish Defence League, said he had gone to Israel next week to head a demonstration against F Minister Begin's West E autonomy proposal.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has indicated, meanwhile, that he is prepared to attend at least the opening round of the forthcoming Israel-Egyptian political talks. The spokesman said that Vance was ready to do whatever will be "helpful and supportive" to promote the negotiations.

The formal statement yesterday on the Imailiya talks said that it was important "at this point to maintain perspective on the meetings which have taken place. It has been our objective, working with the Middle Eastern parties, to establish a process of negotiation which could lead to a comprehensive peace."

The spokesman was asked to comment on the murder on Monday of a West Bank moderate, Hamdi el-Kadi. The PLO has claimed responsibility, charging that the Ramallah education official was collaborating with Israeli military officials.

"If the reports are true," the spokesman said, "we condemn such violence."

Police flush out drug messenger

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A 16-year-old boy swallowed 52 grams of hashish yesterday then had himself arrested so that he could "deliver" the drugs to a friend in the Abu Kabir lock-up.

The story began at 2:10 a.m. yesterday morning when the police received a call that a burglary was in progress in Rehov Yotam in Jaffa. A squad car found a youth lurking suspiciously in the vicinity and took him to the Abu Kabir lock-up for questioning. However, detectives soon began to doubt he was involved in a burglary. Further investigation revealed that the boy himself had phoned in the break-in report.

He then confessed that he had done so to get inside the lock-up, and said he had wanted to deliver drugs to a friend. He agreed to be given an enema at the Donolo Hospital, where the drug, packed in five small rubber bags, was flushed out.

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Reuven Hecht named personal adviser to Begin; role not explained

Jerusalem Post Staff
Minister Menachem Begin told the Cabinet that he had appointed Dr. Reuven Hecht as his personal adviser, a 44-year-old Secretary Aryeh Naor did not report what the main managing director of the firm Hecht had appointed him, and said that he would devote to Begin.

A reporter asked Naor if Begin appointed the 44-year-old Hecht because he was a key figure in the Land of Israel Movement. Naor replied: "Begin, Mr. Hecht, is a Minister, a member of the Knesset, a member of the Land of Israel Movement, a member of the Revisionist Movement, and a member of the Eretz movement from its earliest days. He is a personal friend and confidant of leaders since his student days. He was sent to Europe to



Dr. Hecht

organize clandestine immigration operations. The German invasion caught him by surprise in Yugoslavia in 1941, but he and his wife managed to escape via Italy to Switzerland. He was simultaneously on the search lists of the German Gestapo and the British government. Only after the creation of the State in 1948 was he able to return to Israel. He settled in Eilat in 1949, and obtained from the government its first commercial concession to build a terminal grain silo in the port. He had proposed to the Mandatory government via the Jewish Agency in 1936-37 that a grain silo be erected in the port, but the proposal was rejected for political reasons. Since it began operations in 1956, the Dagon Silo Company has been considered the most efficient enterprise of its kind in the world. The

tariff for its services, used mainly by the government for its grain imports, are about 40 per cent lower than those of grain silos in any other port. He was awarded the Kaplan of Industry prize in 1960.

Soon after the death of their father, Dr. Hecht and his brother, a resident of Jerusalem, sold the bulk of their European possessions and made Israel the centre of their work.

Dr. Hecht has been on the board of directors of public institutions and enterprises, both cultural and commercial. He has served on the boards of the Weizmann Institute, the Technion and the Hebrew University, where a chair of Zionist studies was endowed in his name. In the Dagon office building, he founded a bread and grain museum which won the approval of the International Council of Museums. He also founded a non-profit publishing house, Shikmona, that specializes in Jewish, Zionist and artistic subjects.

He has been adviser to and supported a variety of public cultural institutions, archaeological excavations, the Haifa orchestra, and he is an honorary fellow of the Israel Museum, among others. He is a member of the archaeological council of the Ministry of Culture.

He has always advocated a free enterprise economy that would attract foreign investors like himself, and make Israel a financial centre like Switzerland. His views, which he presented with vigour and temperament brought him into conflict with the Labour establishment, but also earned him their respect for his integrity and patriotism. A source of pride to him are the good labour relations at Dagon.

He studied economics in German universities.



American singer Nina Simone, in Israel for a series of concerts, takes advantage of the sunny weather at the Accadia Hotel in Herzliya.

Petrol station, home robbed in Jerusalem

Two armed and masked men held up an employee at a Sonol petrol station in Jerusalem's Abu Tor quarter early yesterday morning, making off with the IL5,000 he had collected the previous night.

Police noted yesterday that there is an agreement among station workers not to keep more than IL600 on their persons when working at night, in order to discourage hold-ups. They are checking to see whether the station employee violated that agreement.

Also in Jerusalem, police yesterday arrested two youths, 17 and 20, suspected of holding up a woman in her flat in Rehov Nurit at 11 a.m. They rang the bell, and when the woman answered, they allegedly pushed their way into the flat, panned her arms back, gagged her, and held a knife to her abdomen while they turned the flat upside down in search of valuables. They allegedly found jewellery worth tens of thousands of pounds, put it in a sack, and ran off. When a passing policeman pursued them, the two youths dropped the sack and continued running. They were picked up later. (Nim)

Airport workers to get 30% raise

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Airport workers will receive a 30 per cent wage hike and a 10 per cent increase in social benefits, according to a decision reached yesterday by arbitrator Amos Elan.

Elan had been selected by employer and employees as final arbitrator, at the suggestion of Histradrut Secretary-General Yehoram Meisler, when negotiations between the workers and the new Airport Authority broke down. The workers, backed by the Histradrut, had demanded a 45 per cent raise.

The government had offered 30 per cent, and the workers told Elan, a 35 per cent package deal which would include both the raise and social benefits.

Textile plant fire

YAVNE (Nim). — A fire broke out at the Argam textile dyeing and finishing plant here early yesterday morning, causing hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of damage.

The plant's manager said that although the pipe system which brings oil to the factory's boilers has been put out of service production is not expected to suffer.

Display of America, Holy Land books

An exhibition featuring books on America and the Holy Land opened yesterday at the Jewish National and University Library on the Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus.

The exhibition includes the entire collection of the 72 books in a reprint series published by Arno Press, a "New York Times" company, in conjunction with the American Jewish Historical Society and the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Jewry. The exhibition also features half a dozen books on connections between Egypt and the Holy Land at the turn of the century.

The Arno series features studies and travel accounts by noted Christian and Jewish authors —

Peace will boost aliya — Narkiss

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Peace is certain to bring an upsurge in aliya, Uzi Narkiss, director-general of the Jewish Agency's Aliya Department, said yesterday.

Narkiss, speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem's new Gilo Absorption Centre, estimated that if real peace comes next year, about 30,000 Jews will immigrate, compared to 21,500 this year. The 1977 figure is about nine per cent above last year, but still far below the 31,000 arrivals in 1974, and 55,000 in 1975.

Aliya emissaries throughout the world have been instructed to emphasize to potential immigrants, the beneficial changes that peace would bring.

The agency's 1978/79 budget has been set according to a projected 25,000 arrivals, but it could be increased if more olim come. Narkiss recently sent a memorandum to the government, warning that housing

conditions for olim would become intolerable if more flats are not constructed immediately.

The Gilo Absorption Centre, opened in May in southeast Jerusalem, now houses 280 olim and has a capacity of 450 persons. The honeycomb pre-fabricated structure includes five ulpan classes, a children's day-care centre and a synagogue. After Shikmona U'Pitach could find few private buyers for the building, the Absorption Ministry's Director-General Menachem Sherman suggested that it be turned into an absorption centre.

Today, just seven months after opening, residents are constantly complaining about water leakage, poor plumbing and careless finishing. Narkiss expressed surprise over the complaints, adding that the Agency was only renting the premises from the Ministry of Construction and Housing.

Narkiss reported that the rate of Russian Jewish "dropouts" who decided to forgo Israel when they

reached the Vienna transit camp averaged 40.8 per cent during 1977, peaking at 77 per cent in January. He noted that about three to five per cent of these dropouts are not even Jewish.

One of the Aliya Department's most successful projects has been the 14 hostels for single and elderly immigrants. Studies have shown that about 70 per cent of all young singles coming from Western countries eventually leave Israel when they fail to find permanent housing.

The issuance of public tenders for selecting Aliya emissaries, which began two years ago, is a "big headache" for the Aliya Department, Narkiss said. Of the 800 men and women who presented their candidacy in the last tender, just 30 were selected for service abroad. But the extra work of interviewing and selecting is worth the effort, he concluded, because the Jewish Agency is no longer open to criticism that its emissaries are selected according to party affiliation or personal ties.

Bezalel school: Swastika painters unknown

By SUSAN BELLOS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design announced yesterday that it had not found the persons who daubed swastikas on the walls of the Fine Arts Department nearly two months ago, but that they saw no reason now to hand the matter over to the police.

This position, the academy spokesman said, is endorsed by the Ministry of Education's legal adviser, Dr. Zvi Cohen. Swastika daubing is a criminal offence in Israel.

The Bezalel graffiti included the symbols for "swastika equals Star of David." The day after they appeared, a pamphlet was posted in the department which called for anarchy and violence against the Gush Shomron movement. It was signed by a group calling itself "The First of November."

When the graffiti were first discovered, academy director Dan

Hoffner told *The Jerusalem Post* that "unless we find the culprits within a week I'm turning the whole business over to police." Hoffner, who is abroad, was not available for comment yesterday.

The Bezalel spokesman said it was not clear that students had painted the swastikas. However, one senior member of the Fine Arts Department indicated that the perpetrators were known. He said just after the incident that he didn't think the authorities should be too harsh on them since they "are really a very young and immature bunch of kids."

One of them, he said, was so disturbed that he had not done his army service.

Several teachers expressed their dissatisfaction with the handling of the swastika affair. One said he was shocked "not so much by the behaviour of a bunch of students, but by the complete indifference of the Ministry of Education to the situation."

The chairman of Bezalel's board of directors is Dr. Dan Ronnen, who is also in charge of art education for the ministry. Complaints were also made to Danny Wermus and Dov Goldberger, aides to Minister Zevulun Hammer.

The spokesman noted that Bezalel had initiated "special educational activities about the Nazi regime and the Holocaust" for students. Asked for details yesterday, he said that half a day was devoted recently to lectures and slides about the Holocaust.

In addition, a group of teachers, including some former concentration camp inmates, organized a colloquium at their own initiative. The meeting was heckled by a small group of students who shouted "Nazis" and compared Israel's heavy bombing of Lebanon after the Nahariya raid with the policies of Nazi Germany.

New attitude to retarded noted at Akim fund drive

By SUSAN BELLOS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Aharon Langerman, Director-General of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, yesterday suggested that the name of Akim's "Fund for the Retarded Child" campaign be changed to "Home for the Retarded" in view of the new approach to the retarded being taken by the Ministry.

Langerman was speaking at a ceremony held in Beit Haneel, where President Ephraim Katzir opened Akim's annual fund raising drive. The drive itself will take place on January 5.

The Director-General pointed out that while for many years the trend in Israel has been to place the retarded in institutions, the Ministry was now changing its approach in favour of day-care centres. He emphasized that the Ministry was giving the care of the retarded budgetary priority this year, and

that it hoped for assistance from Joint-Malben in the U.S. and the Ministry of Finance.

While institutional care could not be dismissed, Langerman said, the main emphasis will now be on community care, rehabilitation and vocational guidance centres, and genetic counselling.

Above all, he said, "the thirtieth anniversary year of Israel must be remembered as the year of change in the Israeli public's attitude to the retarded."

President Katzir, who was presented with glass handicrafts by a young man and woman from an Akim hotel for retarded adults, also gave out the annual Akim scholarships. The scholarships — which are for research, mapwork training, and practical work with the retarded — were given this year to an East Jerusalem social worker Juliette Dahlke, and two researchers, Arnon Levitan and Shoshanna Shamli.

French couple turned back because of hostile contacts

Jerusalem Post Staff

A French couple was turned back at Ben-Gurion Airport on Christmas for security reasons, the Interior Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

He said that there was reason to believe that Paul Gauthier, 42, and his wife Marie-Therese, 38, would have constituted a danger had they been allowed into the country. But he could not elaborate on what the information was or how it had been obtained.

The spokesman denied a French news agency (AFP) report that the two were banned merely because of their political sympathies with the Palestinians. One of the cornerstones of Israeli policy, he said, is that the Holy Places are open for all to visit. No one would be barred because of their political beliefs, he added.

The Itim news agency quotes security sources at Ben-Gurion as saying that the couple are known to have close contacts with groups hostile to the state.

Although they are married with three children, the couple separated when they arrived at border control on Sunday, and the woman presented a passport in her maiden name, Lacaze. A check revealed that the two had spent years in the Middle East and were close to PLO groups in Lebanon, Jordan and Israel.

The couple at first denied that they were related. After being held overnight at the airport police post, they were put on the first plane to France. On their return, a French Christian journal claimed that the two were clerics. The security sources stressed that the couple had no connection with the clergy, apart from the husband having once been a church employee in France.

Hazor selected as site of first urban kibbutz

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAZOR. — The first urban kibbutz will be built here early in January when the first eight families of the newly-formed movement for kibbutzim in development towns move to the upper Galilee.

Shimon Danieli, head of the movement, said 30 families will settle in Hazor next year, and that the kibbutz is planning to build 30 new kibbutzim in development towns throughout the country.

The aim of the movement, he said, is a mixture of town and kibbutz life, with all social services provided by the kibbutz and each person working in his own profession or trade. He said 400 families have shown interest in the movement, including yordim in the U.S. and new immigrants from the West.

Danieli spoke at a press conference where he praised Hazor for accepting the movement plan.

Three held in hotel hold-up

TEL AVIV (Nim). — Three suspects were arrested yesterday after about IL14,000 in Israeli and foreign currency was stolen from a cash register and safe at the Armon Yam Hotel in Bat Yam.

Three masked men, one of them armed with a pistol, entered the hotel through the kitchen at 4 a.m. and surprised the night clerk, Sidney Barak, 36, who was alone on duty. After clearing out the register and safe, they forced Barak to give them the key to his car, which they used for the getaway.

Police later found the car abandoned, brought dogs to sniff it out, and tracked the suspects down partly by smell.

THE FIRST 270 young people from Argentina arrived on Monday to participate in a winter programme of agricultural work sponsored by the World Zionist Organization. In all, 2,000 young people from Latin America and South Africa, now on school holiday, will take part.

Too many cooks stirring DDT

By AARON BEITNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

At least five different agencies, control over pesticides, and cosmetics is too decentralized, Health Ministry officials said on Monday.

A comment came during my before the Knesset Committee on Labour and Social Affairs, was discussing "the need to market of foods and cosmetics that endanger Israelis."

testimony follows weeks of jury over the significance of DDT in local milk. A recent world war established a precedent consumers protection has claimed the amounts of DDT levels are acceptable and that the milk is safe to

agenda item was proposed by Behel (Alignment), who

cent studies suggesting over-anti-pest chemicals here. She

urged the committee to back more stringent safety standards in pesticide use, improved inspections, and tougher penalties for violators.

"A most important measure would be to centralize the entire subject in the hands of one agency — the Environmental Protection Authority," she said.

Health Ministry representatives at the committee meeting insisted that "Israel is not lagging behind other countries" in enforcing international norms of pesticide control. They also described the Ministry's current upgrading of inspection.

As for excessive decentralization of responsibility and authority, the Ministry spokesmen admitted this was true. At present, they observed, monitoring over pesticides content in foods and cosmetics is being handled — besides by their Ministry — also by the Ministries of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Labour and Social Affairs, and the Environmental Protection Authority, which is affiliated with the Interior Ministry.

Drinking water said getting worse

Jerusalem Post Reporter

— The country's drinking water is getting steadily worse, and to provide the population with water cannot be delayed any

view is contained in a letter put out by the Life Environmental Engineering Company, a firm established by the group here six years ago. The firm's director, Dr. Moshe in, reports that since 1970 has pumped up from its well some 1.5 billion cubic metres of water. This is about equal to the water going back into the after it has been used with its inants, mainly chemicals

used in agriculture, the quality of the water in the ground deteriorates. The multiplying and expanding refuse dumps are also a contributing factor to spoiling the groundwater.

"This does not mean that it is not usable for any purpose, but it is becoming a health hazard and increasingly unfit for drinking and cooking," Neuman states.

He has warned against the dangers of growing contamination of the fresh water supply since 1972, and has drawn the attention of the authorities concerned to the trend, but they have not reacted.

"The day when our water is going to endanger our health is not far off any more," the newsletter concludes.

Nine disabled by crew's disputes

By YA'ACOV ARDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

— Zim's new 7,000-ton ship Jasmine has developed a stability — her crew. Disputed the ratings and between them officers held up the ship's on Monday when she was a sail for Marseilles with cargo, much of it perishable. disputes has nothing to do us. We're innocent ters," the Zim spokesman yesterday.

ratings are apparently

quarrelling over the distribution of cabins (which aboard the Jasmine are more elegant than aboard any of the passenger boats calling here). Another dispute concerns whether "elop cheat" supplies, like cigarettes, toilet and other personal articles, are to be entrusted to an officer or a rating, and whether a rating should be obliged to deliver the purchases to the officers' cabins.

On older ships, this work is done by a non-commissioned steward. For the Jasmine, both seamen's unions agreed to waive the post of a steward to reduce crew costs.

The 51m. ship, built in Norway, developed a flat on her maiden voyage to Marseilles on December 9, and was towed to Limassol. The Jasmine sailed back here. After an investigation, the chief marine engineer of the Transport Ministry pronounced the ship fit to sail with a reduced volume of cargo.

Egyptian artist exhibiting here

An exhibition of works by the Egyptian artist Abdul-Wahab Morel will open at Jerusalem's Arts Gallery this Saturday at 11 a.m.

This is the first time in Israel's history that a leading Egyptian artist's work has been publicly exhibited. Morel, whose modern etchings draw their influence from ancient Egyptian art, is one of the few Egyptian artists to exhibit not only in Arab countries, but in dozens of one-man shows in the West as well.

An exchange exhibit of Israeli artists, from Reuven Rubin to Ya'acov Agam, is being prepared for shipment to Egypt by Itamar Barkai, director of the Arts Gallery.

About a month ago, Barkai asked the Prime Minister's help in arranging the exchange, which was then facilitated by the Foreign Ministry.

The Arts Gallery, at 4 Rehov Rabi Akiva, will exhibit Morel's works for two weeks. Hours are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. on weekdays.

Fined for poor service

HAIFA (Nim). — The Friedman refrigerator service company was fined IL750 for its tardy response to a client's request to have his refrigerator fixed, and for its delay in finishing the job, in a first trial of its kind at the Magistrates Court here yesterday.

In a charge-sheet presented to the Magistrate's Court here yesterday by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism's legal adviser, it was said that Yehoshua Kestner of Bat Galim asked the service company to fix his refrigerator early in July. The technician came to his home one month later and the refrigerator was actually fixed only in the middle of November. The Friedman company claimed that the delay was caused by a strike. The court, however, held that the consumer should not suffer because of a strike.

Two held for extortion

HAIFA (Nim). — A Magistrate's Court here yesterday detained two men suspected of attempting to extort IL400,000 from the owner of a factory at the port here in exchange for "keeping quiet" about his alleged involvement in the robbing of a Kuneitra bank during the Six Day War.

Police claim that Yosef Ben-Dov, the factory owner's former partner, and Ataf Azam received IL50,000 in signed checks from the plant owner following their demands. The two were arrested after police ambushed the place where Azam met the plant owner to conclude the deal.

Ben-Dov was detained for ten days, and Azam for four days.

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Economists predict bleak '78 for West

PARIS (AP). — Industrialized nations in the West will have a bleak economic year in 1978, frustrated by sluggish growth and rising unemployment, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) predicted yesterday.

In its semi-annual economic forecast, the OECD predicted that its 24 member nations will show an overall growth rate of only 3.5 percent next year and will suffer increased joblessness, continuing balance of payments deficits, and increasing domestic pressures for protectionist trade policies.

The OECD secretariat, the economic braintrust of the Western industrialized nations, warned the "Big Three" — the U.S., Japan and West Germany — that too little economic stimulus next year will generate more unemployment, while too much will spark another dangerous round of world inflation.

Despite its bleak forecasts, the OECD secretariat denied the industrialized world was trapped in what some observers have called a "damned-if-you-do-it-or-not-if-you-don't" dilemma over balancing unemployment and inflation.

"This is not a Catch-22 situation," said David Fay, director of the

OECD secretariat. "If the right things are done, they will work."

At a press conference, Fay also urged the "Big Three" industrial nations to move quickly to stimulate their economies and not to bow to nationalist pressures for protectionist measures or other restraints on free trade.

On the brighter side, Fay said the OECD was encouraged by Japan's recent improvement in industrial production and by the "significant improvement" in the balance of payments position of Italy, France, Great Britain, Finland and Australia.

He also said the recent decision by oil-producing nations not to raise the price of oil was "some cause of satisfaction" for the industrialized nations.

Regarding the U.S., Fay said the recent slippage of the dollar on international money markets was "worrying." But he applauded recent steps taken by the Carter Administration to bolster the dollar.

Fay said the current U.S. balance of payments deficit, which the report termed a "tricking development," was not due to oil imports and lack of an energy policy. He said it was due to the faster rate of recovery of the U.S. economy.

Soviets says West assumes Shcharansky is innocent

MOSCOW (UPI). — A prominent Soviet magazine said yesterday that Western sympathizers are prejudging the case against imprisoned dissident Anatoly Shcharansky by assuming he is innocent of treason.

Shcharansky has been in jail for the past nine months while an investigation is underway. The magazine "Literaturnaya Gazeta" said the U.S. has no right to interfere in the case.

President Carter has already denied charges that Shcharansky worked for the Central Intelligence Agency, and U.S. senators and congressmen have called for a dismissal of the charges against him.

Ironically, the Soviet press has already accused Shcharansky of treason, despite the claim that Shcharansky's Western supporters were prejudging the case.

On October 28, the Soviet news agency Tass charged Shcharansky was a "traitor" who would be punished "to the full extent of the law" — which could mean the death penalty if he is convicted of treason.

Thus far, the formal charges against the 39-year-old computer scientist have not been released, and the investigators recently asked for a six-month extension to continue their probe.

The article in "Literaturnaya Gazeta," written by reporters Victor Valentynov and Boris Roschin, charged that Shcharansky's Western supporters are ignoring the realities of the case.

"Neither the Soviet state nor the Soviet people need lecturing on how to live in their own house," the reporters said.

The reporters said the Soviet Union will "not allow anyone to cast doubt on its right to manage its internal affairs without prompting and moralizing machins by preachers from across the ocean."

Moscow philosopher grilled on Shcharansky

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Philosophy professor Alexander Zinoviev said yesterday he was poked up by KGB security police in the morning for questioning about jailed dissident Anatoly Shcharansky.

Dr. Zinoviev, sacked from his job this year after publishing a satirical novel in the West, had earlier ignored an official summons to the session at a KGB prison in Moscow.

He said he was shown a photograph of Shcharansky, a member of the dissident "Helsinki" human rights monitoring group seized by the KGB in March, and asked to identify him. But he said he refused to answer any further questions.

Demirel loses another deputy

ANKARA. — Another deputy resigned yesterday from Premier Suleyman Demirel's Justice Party, eroding still further the support of the premier and driving Turkey toward a new government crisis.

Party Deputy Mehmet Cagiltas announced his resignation just before the lower house of assembly met to decide when to deal with a censure motion tabled by the Republican People's Party last Thursday.

Resignations from the Justice Party cost the coalition its majority earlier this month.

Parliament was to decide whether to accept the censure motion on its agenda, but the decision was being regarded as a foregone conclusion as the government has said it is ready to answer the RPP's charges.

If the censure motion, which attacks the government as inconsistent and irresponsible, is carried, it is expected to be followed by an attempt to pass a vote of no confidence in Demirel's five-month-old administration. (UPI, Reuters)

Oil tankers being scrapped

OSLO (Reuters). — For the first time in the history of the oil tanker industry, the giant ships are being scrapped faster than they are being built, the world owners' association Inter-tanko said here yesterday.

In a year-end review of the tanker market, Inter-tanko said the increase in overall tonnage this year had not been as significant as in 1976.

As the number of deliveries of new tankers decreased, the industry was now approaching the point where the number scrapped exceeded the number delivered. This happened for the first time last October.

Air service to begin between Japan and Iraq

TOKYO (UPI). — Japan and Iraq initiated a civil aviation agreement in Tokyo yesterday, paving the way for regular air service between the two countries next year.

The Transport Ministry said Iraq Airways and Japan Airlines will begin services between Tokyo and Baghdad in April and November, respectively.

JAL said the existing once-a-week flight between Tokyo and Europe will stop in Baghdad, while a new weekly flight will be inaugurated between the two capitals.

Concorde test run to Persian Gulf

TEHRAN (UPI). — The Anglo-French supersonic airliner Concorde landed in Tehran yesterday after a "test run" to Iran's big money holiday resort at Kish Island, in the Persian Gulf.

Kish Island is being developed as a tourist complex of casinos, bars and restaurants to cater mainly for the petrodollar-spending tourist traffic.

The Air France Concorde landed in Kish early yesterday after a three hour 45 minute flight from Paris, then flew back to Tehran for overnight refueling before returning to Paris this morning.

High jumper tops Europe sport poll

WARSAW (Reuters). — East German high jumper Rosemarie Ackermann, first woman in the world to clear two metres, was voted outstanding European sports personality of the year in a poll of 28 European news agencies conducted by the Polish Press Agency.

Ackermann, who performed her feat in West Berlin on August 26, collected 299 points out of a possible 320, according to results published yesterday.

Second place went to world formula one motor racing champion Niki Lauda of Austria, with the Soviet high jumper Vladimir Yashchenko third. Last year's winner, Rumanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci, did not figure in the top 10 this year.

'Golden Ball' award to Danish soccer star

PARIS (AP). — Danish soccer star Allan Simonsen was yesterday elected recipient of Europe's "Golden Ball" award, a distinction honouring Europe's best soccer player for the 1977 playing season.

The first Dane to win this honour since 1956, Simonsen narrowly snatched the coveted award given annually by "France Football," a leading soccer publication here, from Britain's Kevin Keegan, now playing for Hamburg, and France's Michel Platini.



Mrs. Charlie Chaplin, second from right, with her children during her husband's funeral in Vevey, Switzerland, yesterday morning. (UPI telephoto)

Chaplin buried in quiet ceremony by Lake Geneva

CORSIER-SUR-VEVEY, Switzerland (Reuters). — Charlie Chaplin, the bowler-hatted screen tramp who brought laughter to millions, was buried quietly here yesterday in a cemetery overlooking Lake Geneva.

Only his widow, Oona, his children and other members of the family and household attended the private graveside ceremony.

Rain poured from a leaden sky and mist shrouded the lake and surrounding peaks during the burial of the British-born comedian, who died peacefully early on Christmas morning at the age of 88.

About 30 mourners bunched under umbrellas as a British clergyman and his Swiss colleague read prayers

beside the wooden coffin covered with black and silver drapes.

Non-family onlookers, mainly reporters and cameramen, were kept behind a screen of metal barriers ranged around the burial plot.

A hearse piled high with roses, gladioli and other flowers carried the body of Sir Charles Chaplin on his last journey, the 1.5 km. drive from the family's 18-room mansion.

Eight of Chaplin's nine children were at the graveside. One daughter, 33-year old actress Geraldine, who lives in Spain, was missing. A family spokesman said on Monday she was making a film and was unable to attend.

Man orders hospital to disconnect wife's life-support machine

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS (AP). — Walter Piotrowicz told Salem Hospital on Monday to disconnect the life-support machine at the bedside of his wife, who has been in a coma for two years and was put on the life-support device about a week ago.

Esther Piotrowicz, 55, who has in-

operable cancer and a degenerative disease of the nervous system, continued to live after the life-support device was disconnected. The hospital, which refused to discuss the decision, said she was in critical condition in the intensive care ward.

However, the family's lawyer, Philip L. Roy, said "she is still in a coma — she is going to die in the coma."

Mrs. Piotrowicz lived in a coma for two years without artificial support, until about a week ago, when her heart stopped beating and the hospital connected her to a life-support device, he said.

She has Huntington's Chorea, a hereditary disease that attacks the central nervous system, and is inoperable cancer.

Roy said he gave Piotrowicz court papers approving the disconnection on Christmas day — but "he wanted to wait until after Christmas."

Does President Carter have a foreign policy?

By OSWALD JOHNSTON
The Los Angeles Times
News Service

WASHINGTON. — A dinner party was given here recently to celebrate the foreign policy development of Jimmy Carter's first year as President, with the ambassadors of Egypt and Israel present as guests of honor. Ranking Administration policy makers were also present, headed by Foreign Affairs Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

But when toasts were exchanged, with both ambassadors speaking, the reply on behalf of the U.S. came from former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. No one from the present Administration said a word.

So it has gone this year. With a flurry of words and a burst of energy 11 months ago, Carter, Brzezinski, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and UN Ambassador Andrew Young seemed bent on defining a new age in foreign policy, distinguished primarily by its difference from what Kissinger wrought in the age of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

At year end, however, the ratio of good intentions, compared to accomplishments, is unusually high. And what accomplishment there has been — in drawing near to a strategic arms agreement with the Russians, completing the text of a new canal treaty with Panama, or nurturing a Middle East negotiation between Egypt and Israel — represents a direct inheritance of

past administrations, not a repudiation of them.

Kissinger, National Security Adviser to Nixon and Ford, was only filling an accustomed role when he answered the toasts of the Egyptian and the Israeli ambassadors at the dinner, celebrating the approach toward an Israel-Egypt accord.

Soon after the tumultuous early course of Carter's foreign policy was set, a veteran observer of the Washington scene muttered that he had never seen such confusion of high ideals with real national interest since the early months of the Kennedy administration.

In the Kennedy epoch too, there were proclamations of a need for new initiatives and new directions. A new broom in the National Security apparatus swept career diplomats from positions of authority and replaced them with bright, ambitious young men with ideas.

In the cold light of history, the foreign policy of President Kennedy is likely to be remembered less for its glamour than for the Bay of Pigs, the Berlin crisis and the Vietnam war.

So far, Carter's accomplishment has been much better. There has been no disaster on the magnitude of the Bay of Pigs. But instead of pushing his original idealistic impulses to the point of crisis, Carter has abandoned, reversed or modified beyond recognition all the spectaculars of his early months.

U.S. believed within range of Soviet mobile missile

WASHINGTON (AP). — After months of uncertainty, officials here now believe that Russia has started deploying a new mobile land-based missile with potential to hit the U.S.

In its present form, the Soviet SS-20 missile's estimated 4,800-km. range limits it to targets in Western Europe, China and the Middle East. But U.S. specialists say its range can be extended easily to 8,000 kms. by adding a third rocket stage to the present two stages. That would make it similar to the SS-16 intercontinental ballistic missile, and put the U.S. within its range.

U.S. military officials are concerned the conversion could quickly tip the nuclear balance against the U.S. in a time of diplomatic crisis, especially since mobile missile bases would be hard to find and knock out.

Pentagon officials warned earlier about the potential for conversion of the SS-20, but noted then that the missile had not been deployed. The months of uncertainty and conflicting reports on deployment apparently stemmed from difficulty in locating and identifying the SS-20's mobile launch equipment at combat-ready positions inside the Soviet Union.

However, U.S. military intelligence analysts now say the SS-20 is deployed in eastern Russia. That suggests the first combat-ready SS-20s, which can carry three nuclear warheads each, are aimed at targets in China.

Intelligence analysts also believe preparations are under way to deploy mobile missiles in western and central Russia. From western Russia, SS-20s could blanket Western Europe. From central Russia, the missiles could strike targets in the Middle East.

In Moscow yesterday, the Soviet

Union warned the U.S. that the development and deployment of the SS-20 mobile or neutron bomb at forward bases in Europe or European allies could raise possibility of reaching future agreements.

A commentary in "Pravda" May Gen. Rais Simonyan told Soviet Union opposed the introduction of a new element in the race, but its position should not be interpreted as a sign of weakness.

"Neither Cruise missiles nor neutron bombs nor new types of weapons can intimidate the Soviet Union," the "Pravda" columnist said.

The article followed Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's warning Friday that the Soviet Union would be forced to develop a neutron bomb if the U.S. goes ahead with its own if the U.S. goes ahead with its plans.

The "Pravda" commentary devoted largely to U.S. for bases in Europe — the nuclear missiles, bombs and aircraft carriers based in Britain, Spain and other areas of the continent.

The newspaper said the KGB had the right to inject this issue into future arms negotiations because the Soviet Union still would be vulnerable to attack from the bases even if agreement were reached to limit the entire arsenal of strategic weapons both sides possess.

Gen. Simonyan, an authoritative commentator who is a professor at an army staff college, said forward base tactical nuclear strength in Europe was 7,000 units, "more than enough to raise the war of Western Europe."

Independent Namibia in 1978

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — South-West Africa will become independent next year regardless of the outcome of talks between South Africa and the Western nations, the chief administrator in the territory said.

The Johannesburg "Rand Daily Mail" yesterday reported from South-West Africa, also called Namibia, that Marthinus Steyn, administrator-general of the South African-administered territory, said he would continue with preparations for elections if negotiations between the U.S., West Germany, France, Canada, Britain and South Africa come to naught.

The five are negotiating to secure a peaceful transition to independence in the territory. A

guerrilla group recognized by UN, the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), operates from bases in Angola. SWAPO moderates dispute their claim to represent the people of the territory.

Steyn wants the estimated 100,000 South African troops in South-West Africa withdrawn before they take part in elections. South Africa has indicated it will reduce but withdraw its forces because it fears a military takeover by SWAPO.

Steyn said he would know January 21 whether talks with Western nations had a chance of success.

South Africa was given control of the area by a League of Nations mandate in 1920. The mandate was voided by the UN in 1946.

Shah: Dissidents 'brainwashed'

TEHRAN (Reuters). — The Shah of Iran attacked political dissidents in his country on Monday, describing them as a brainwashed group with no sense of direction.

"They are like the drunk swaying in any direction, not knowing their direction or goal," the Shah told the members of the political bureau of Iran's only political party, Rastakhiz (Resurgence).

The party will hold a special congress on January 4, when it is ex-

pected to criticize dissidents, including students, who are active in the past few weeks have interrupted classes at several Iranian universities.

Since the Shah visited Washington last month, dissidents and students have stepped up their demands for more civil liberties, and scores of arrests have been made. A compulsory training college has been closed, studies at the school of economic Teheran University were suspended.

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Half full or half empty?

THE GAME of the week is trying to figure out the results of the Egyptian-Israeli summit meeting in Ismailiya. Assessments by the parties themselves have tended to vary from unqualified satisfaction to qualified dissatisfaction, depending where and when they were given.

President Sadat appeared a fairly happy man, fully confident of the ultimate inevitability of peace, at the joint press conference with Premier Begin; but in private he has been sounding a somewhat jarring note of discontent, presumably meant to jolt Israel into further concessions.

As for Mr. Begin, the air of exuberance that characterized his performance in Ismailiya gave way to a more sober demeanour upon arrival back in Israel — he was still buoyant, but in a more subdued vein. Certainly his tone was not nearly as sombre as that of Foreign Minister Dayan, who insisted he was not disappointed but nevertheless warned sternly of the "serious obstacles on the way," the removal of which, he suggested, depended largely on Mr. Sadat "and his advisers."

The question, as happens ever so often, is whether the glass is half full or half empty.

This is the sensible view of the matter. Not surprisingly, it is not the view of the Kremlin. According to Tass, the Soviet so-called news agency, the meeting in Ismailiya ended in humiliation for Mr. Sadat. A deadlock ensued, and the Egyptian President was forced to make huge unilateral concessions to Israel. Such as? Well, such as the agreement to send the Egyptian Foreign Minister to Jerusalem next month for the meetings of the political working group of the Cairo conference. And why is that a huge concession? Because it would be considered all around the Arab world as Egyptian recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Tass' memory, alas, is woefully poor. The damage it bewails was already done — by President Sadat's official visit to Jerusalem last month. That historic visit, although it included the Old City, did not signify Egyptian acceptance of Israel's position on the status of East Jerusalem. But it did amount to a recognition of Israel as a legitimate state — and of Jerusalem as its capital.

The traditional Arab stand on Jerusalem, which long predated the Six Day War, has always been a symptom of the refusal of the Arab governments to reconcile themselves to Israel's existence. The support being lent to it now through Tass is damning evidence of the real Soviet sentiment behind the facade of peaceful protestations.

The question can also be asked whether the time has not now come for friendly states, such as the U.S., to follow President Sadat's example by starting to move their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Or do they feel that they must appear in public as more pro-Arab than Egypt's President, by paying obeisance to that defunct UN decision on the internationalization of the Holy City?

Strike damage

A NUMBER OF merchants have filed a suit in the Haifa District Court against the Ships Officers Union, claiming damages for losses caused them by a work dispute to which they were not a party. They state that the occupation of berths in Haifa harbour by strike-bound Israeli ships prevented an American vessel from discharging its cargo there. She was compelled to leave for an Italian port and unload there, at considerable cost to the plaintiffs.

The suit is made under the law of torts. The court will presumably decide whether the loss was caused by an action that was illegal (that is, disobedience to an order from the Ports Authority to clear the berth).

The time may well be ripe for introducing legislation that defines just what a strike is, so that the courts and the public may know what damage is a legitimate accompaniment and what is illegitimate and thus recoupable.

A work stoppage necessarily causes damage to persons other than the employer. When workers down tools in a factory, customers expecting delivery by fixed deadlines are harmed. When a power-station is shut down, many other workplaces are paralysed by the lack of electricity. That is part of the game.

But these are indirect effects. In recent times, strikers have commonly done damage to third parties directly. The law does not say to take an example) that if — as once happened — bus drivers park their vehicles across the road to prevent the flow of ordinary traffic, that is by definition something other than industrial action.

Employed persons are allowed to declare a strike under the law, provided that they are not in breach of contract, that the action is authorized by their proper representative organization, and that due notice has been given. But this is not enough. The law should state outright that a strike is a cessation of work, and no more than that. Any action in breach of public order that goes beyond a cessation of work cannot be justified on the grounds that it is legal strike action.

Such an amendment would make clear to working people everywhere the limits to which they may go in a labour dispute. It would prevent them from breaking the law of torts inadvertently, under the mistaken impression that they are justifiably and properly defending their legitimate trade union rights.

POSTSCRIPTS

EVER SINCE President Sadat and Mr. Begin first talked about "keeping up the momentum" of the peace drive, events and attitudes have been changing with such dizzying speed that we have had a feeling of being in Looking-Glass Land.

"Wow, now," cried the Queen, "Faster, faster... If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that."

With what seemed impossible less than 40 days ago now apparently round the corner, another quotation from "Alice through the Looking Glass" is running round our head.

"I can't believe that," said Alice. "Can't you?" the Queen said in a pitying tone. "Try again, draw a long breath and shut your eyes."

Alice laughed. "There's no use trying," she said. "One can't believe impossible things."

"I dare say you haven't had much practice," said the Queen. "When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes, I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

Which leads us to two other famous sayings. Here's the first: "If you wish it, it is no legend" and Chaim Weizmann's "The impossible is just a matter of time."

Today, Herzl might have said "If you both wish it, it is not impossible" and Weizmann might have said "The impossible doesn't take longer when you both want it."

A TOURIST who was recently in Jordan writes that King Hussein has given top priority to the development of Aqaba as a tourist centre. At present, however, Jordan's only port consists of a series of sluices, a new housing development, several first class hotels and restaurants, a scuba-diving and snorkelling centre, and some very expensive souvenir shops.

Jordanian businessmen predict, however, that it will take Aqaba only 10 years to become a serious rival to Eilat. Hussein may even turn the city into a free port. Meanwhile he is offering very generous financial incentives to any Jordanian or foreign investor willing to start up a new tourist attraction.

Aqaba hopes eventually to cater almost exclusively to Europeans and Americans — at the moment hotels are dependent on sailors and Saudis. The latter regularly cross the nearby border in their big American cars for a few nights of serious drinking at the plush Holiday Inn.

Aqaba restaurants offer no fresh fish because they can't get the locals to go fishing — there's more money in being a dock worker. Shrimp is flown in daily from the Persian Gulf. Aqaba's souvenir stores don't carry Eilat stone or, in fact, seem to know that the green stone originates only 20 miles due west.

It is very strange, our informant adds, for anyone familiar with Israel to drive along the Jordanian coast so close to Eilat that it's easy to identify the Laromne Hotel and the Marine Biology lab. Even stranger is to eat at Aqaba's Chinese restaurant which includes the theme song from "Exodus" in its repertoire of background music.

F.M.

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Who speaks for the Gazans?

Residents of the Gaza Strip are tired of foreign administration and want peace, writes ZVI ARENSTEIN.

Signs are that they are growing impatient with the PLO, which inspires mainly fear in them.

ONE THING is clear in Gaza today — the residents want peace and the PLO may be left behind if it doesn't begin to take this into account.

For as long as anyone here can remember, Gaza has been under the administration of one power or another — before the Israelis it was the Egyptians, who replaced the British, who came after the Turks. Gaza has had a long history of restrictions, regulations and curfews. The Israeli administration has been the most helpful and benevolent by comparison with its predecessors, but local residents still feel the urge to break away from a foreign military government that controls their everyday lives. For Gazans peace may spell an end to these administrative. The mainline of the Israeli administration is the latest political developments. "Inshallah," one hears, "Sadat and Begin will bring us peace." The local community leaders, less trusting and more likely to try to influence events, also want peace; each leader is trying to contribute to the momentum in his own way.

Mayor Rashad Shawwa is the key man in the current situation. What he says and thinks seems to be given prominence in the Israeli media. It is important to remember, however, that he was not elected by secret ballot, but appointed by the Gaza

Strip military government on the basis of popular support.

Shawwa has adopted the classic "wait and see" approach. He has placed himself, through delicate manoeuvring, on good terms with nearly all sides in the complex Palestinian struggle. He recently met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Beirut and is known to be on friendly terms with King Hussein. Sensitive to PLO reactions, Shawwa did not visit Jerusalem or travel to Cairo to visit the President, success in his peace effort.

AUTONOMY, as Premier Begin has suggested, does not interest the mayor. He claims that Moshe Dayan made him similar offers in 1968, which he turned down. But the presence in Cairo of a delegation from Gaza, which Shawwa preferred to dismiss as not representative of the people, has put pressure on him to come up with something. The latest word is that if concessions on Palestinian rights are forthcoming from the Israelis, the mayor might be willing to bypass the intramural PLO. And this would be a significant development.

Shawwa is a member of one of Gaza's most influential families. He is a successful businessman and the trading force behind the Benevolent Society for the Relief of

Gaza Strip inhabitants, which is now sponsoring the construction of a modern community centre. He is also the head of the local Chamber of Commerce. Shawwa has extracted pledges of large sums of money from Arab Gulf States for Gaza's development.

The mayor is well known on the Strip for his ability "to walk the tightrope" and maintain good relations with all sides. He seems to be waiting for his cue to jump into action. He is an obvious candidate to represent the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip at Cairo or Geneva conferences.

MEANWHILE, Sheikh Hasbun Husayn has managed to attract attention in the last few weeks by heading the 82-man Gazan delegation to Cairo. The group's members were well received in the Egyptian capital, although no one there invited them to represent the Palestinians at the talks.

These Gazans lean towards Egypt; some of them even suggest that the Strip be returned to Sadat's administration. No one in the group will say openly that he is against the PLO; but the trip to Cairo was against PLO wishes and proved that these people are capable of presenting their own case. Whether or not it is heard, is



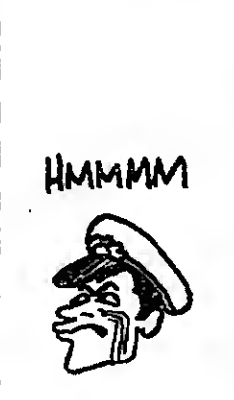
another matter; but no one can fault them for lack of courage. Several of them have received death threats as a result of this trip.

"We want peace in any way possible," Sheikh Ahmad Abu-Siridana told me on his return from Cairo. "Are we going to wait another 20 years for the PLO to make the same commitment?"

delegation from the territories that met with Sadat in Jerusalem. This could possibly be interpreted as a sign of flexibility.

But one of the most telling arguments I recently heard against the PLO came from an influential local businessman, who said: "The PLO have filled their role properly up to this point. They have made excellent fighters for the Palestinian cause. But when peace comes to Gaza and the West Bank, and the time comes to choose local leaders — they will not necessarily be the ones best suited to govern the Palestinian people. Low-level members of the group may be included in our councils, but PLO leaders will not make good statesmen."

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

THE FIRST ISRAELI FLIGHT TO EGYPT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — The first flight from Israel (then Palestine) to Egypt was made on June 17, 1937 in a single engine R.W.D. 13 aircraft of the Aeroclub of Israel, which was not equipped with wireless. The aircraft was flown by Advocate E.J. Alroy (Kirschbaum), who is the Chairman of the Council of the Aeroclub of Israel, together with Mrs. Alroy and the Polish aviator, Engineer Major Zieminski. They were warmly welcomed by the Egyptian Aeroclub and spent a week in Egypt.

On the return flight they were compelled to make a forced landing in the desert at night, owing to engine trouble, and had trouble saving themselves and the aircraft from the predatory desert tribes, who wanted to destroy the "red bird," that is, the aircraft, which was painted red.

G. ARNON
Tel Aviv.

BILLBOARD BLIGHT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Having returned to Israel after nine months abroad, my husband and I drove to Jerusalem enjoying, as always, the beautiful ride, especially from Latrun on. This ascent to Jerusalem has always been one of spiritual uplifting for us.

You can imagine our dismay when, just before Abu Ghosh, on the right-hand side of the road, we saw a large Coca Cola sign advertising a restaurant.

If this sign is allowed to remain, then can we expect to see the Judean Hills covered with advertising billboards. Whatever agency is responsible for this area must put a stop to this blight, before it becomes an epidemic.

FREDA COHEN
Jerusalem.

MOTHER'S MILK

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Wouldn't it be nice if, as a spin-off to the concern over the quality of cow's milk, new mothers would once again begin nursing their babies and do so, for a change, with the effective, knowledgeable encouragement of Tipat HaLev stations?

Compared with even the purest of cow's milk, mother's milk is custom-made and virtually guarantees a healthier, less colicky, well-nourished and contented baby (and mother, too!).

ELANA LYNN ABRAMS
Rehovot.

THE DRUG PROBLEM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — I just read that two United States basketball players were arrested here possessing hashish. And I understand that other young people, often volunteers at kibbutzim, have been abruptly deported for using marijuana, hashish and other soft drugs.

I have just arrived from the U.S. where decriminalization and a sensibly relaxed attitude now obtain; moreover, medical and scientific knowledge now indicates that these are no more harmful — and often far more beneficial — than liquor, all of which are victimless when used in moderation and ought to be regulated the same way. Therefore, I wonder when Israel, an advanced and enlightened society, will drop its witch-hunt against users of soft drugs, especially hashish.

Regulations and legalization, yes. The elimination of the criminal element, especially pushers, of course. But prohibition, whether of liquor or "pot" cannot and ought not work and should be opposed.

A modern society such as Israel is surely sophisticated enough to distinguish between hard drugs and harmless soft drugs as it does for liquor and wine and fruit punch, that is between "hard" drink and "soft" drink.

(DR.) ROBERT NERIEV
Netanya.

★ ★ ★

Sir, — Your article of December 15 according to which Israel has 120,000 drug addicts is shocking. When I consider that, only a few years ago, Shlomo Millei, then Minister of Police, denied that Israel had a drug problem and that today, three per cent of the population are addicted to drugs, I wonder what has happened.

Israel, with internal social problems boiling just under the surface and military burdens almost overwhelming, cannot afford an affluent society's decadence.

We must destroy this drug menace forcefully with swift police action and stiff prison sentences for suppliers and pushers. We're a small nation; the police know the pushers from their large American cars (as reported by The Jerusalem Post many months ago) and their lack of employment. Tolerance of this menace will only cause the situation to fester and grow. Desperate measures are called for now to protect society.

W. J. LEVY
Tel Aviv.

The facts of NEP life

American investors can do a great deal to help the Israeli economy, says ELMER L. WINTER, chairman of

the Committee for the Economic Growth of Israel. But Israel must take some vital steps to attract them.

THERE ARE certain facts of life that must be considered as the New Economic Policy (NEP) process settles in. These facts, if recognized and accepted, can, I believe, go a long way towards producing an inflow of foreign capital into the country, resulting in increased exports and the final elimination of Israel's gap in her balance of payments.

ISRAELI MUST face up to the fact that the basic problem of their economy has been the very serious deficits in the balance of payments accompanied by a staggering inflation over the past few years.

The stark realities facing every Israeli disclose: CIn 1976, Israeli imports of goods and services were \$7.54b, and exports \$4.1b, leaving a deficit of \$3.44b.

CTo offset the deficit, Israel received grants and loans from the U.S. government of \$1.725b, world Jewry gave \$392m, and bought \$244m. In bonds, and German reparations to individuals totalled \$514m. The Israeli government was required to borrow \$781m, thus adding to the debt and interest obligations.

CIIsrael's debt is approximately \$9b. CIThe export/import ratio continues plus a 10 per cent increase in prices, the deficit, according to a recent article in "Commentary" magazine, will be \$5b. by 1980 and \$8b. by 1985. Even if these projections are unrealistic there is certainly reason to take measures to reverse the trend.

CIThe total investment in Israel in 1976 declined by 15 per cent and investment in industry declined by 5 per cent. Israel was in a serious situation. Misdevaluations did not provide the answer as Israel slid further into debt.

ISRAEL MUST export to survive. Israel desperately needs to export her products. Her manufacturers are competing with producers from all over the world who have accepted the challenge to "export to survive." Israeli goods must be smarter, original, more efficient, less costly, better styled, etc.

Israel's brainpower must find its way into the design of consumer products; Israel's institutions must stress the importance of innovation and creativity. Yesterday's products are unrealistic there is no time for the drawing boards — not to meet competition, but to beat it.

Subsidies won't close the balance of payments gap; private initiative will.

ISRAELI COMPANIES alone cannot produce sufficient export sales to close the gap in the country's

balance of payments.

Can Israel do it alone and look to locally-owned companies to close the gap in the balance of payments? I doubt it. Israel needs to develop between 10 and 20 large conglomerates. Most Israeli companies are small, and small companies cannot afford the costs of research, automation equipment and overseas marketing. Foreign companies are needed to invest and to supply know-how, production techniques, marketing and capital.

ISRAEL MUST be attractive to foreign investors.

Israel has much to offer foreign investors in terms of brainpower, technical institutions, incentives, etc. The question must always be asked: "Why should an American company go 7,000 miles to open a plant in Israel?" There must be sound business reasons.

Israel must be able to offer foreign investors limited government controls, ease of doing business, a minimum of red tape, free movement of materials, etc.

I believe Finance Minister Eshkol was right when he said: "The government should not compete with its citizens, either in the field of direct economic activity or involvement in investment and production or in the capital market."

Hopefully, NEP will offer genuine encouragement to American companies, to take a new look at Israel. I believe that decisions favorable to investments in Israel will now be made in American corporate executive suites.

FOREIGN INVESTORS will not open factories in Israel on an emotional basis. It ought to be clearly understood that foreign investors use only one measuring stick: R.O.I. (Return on Investment) when considering investments abroad. Emotion is not an ingredient in corporate decision-making process when investments abroad are considered.

ISRAEL MUST be an attractive place from which to export. Israel does not need foreign investors to sell in the local market; she needs companies from abroad to export from Israel. Again this requires the type of free flow that NEP provides. The elimination of export subsidies, exchange controls, red tape, all accompanied by a rise in the Israeli pound, should make Israel an attractive place from which foreign investors will export.

THERE SHOULD be no windfalls flowing from NEP. Any drastic change results in dis-

locations and is uneven in its impact. Revisions in the tax structure would appear to be the best way to offset the effect of "the rich get richer and the poor get poorer." A return to subsidies cannot be the answer, as this would only produce another round of price increases and further controls. The wiser way would be to get at the inequities through the tax structure.

WORKERS MUST be fairly compensated for work performed.

American companies are willing to pay a fair wage for a fair day's work. The impact of NEP on Israeli wages must be carefully thought through. Massive strikes will not provide the answer. Foreign investors go where there is labour tranquillity and stability. Hopefully, NEP will present opportunities for increased earnings through greater productivity.

ISRAELI WORKERS must be convinced that NEP will mean long-term benefits for them. It is difficult for an Israeli worker to consider NEP benefits while his or her present purchasing power has been materially reduced. Workers must see that NEP, long term, will provide an improved standard of living, less dependency on government freer movement of goods and supplies, greater job opportunities and lower taxes.

I believe NEP, through increased investments and stepped-up exports, will provide a better standard of living for Israeli workers. The closing of the balance of payments gap will reduce dependency on others, cut the costs of servicing Israel's debt, etc. Bringing foreign corporations to Israel will open up new jobs, provide new challenges to Israeli youth, thus eliminating the present brain-drain.

ISRAEL WILL SUCCEED through government involvement and more reliance on private initiative. Through the passage of NEP, Israel has come of age — painful as the process has been. The government has wisely decided that economic wellbeing depends on encouraging private initiative, could only accomplish this through surgery. Applying band-aids would not bring about the desired result.

We in America accept NEP as a challenge seriously to consider Israel as a country in which to invest. The Committee for the Economic Growth of Israel, through its 400 business volunteers in the U.S., will encourage American corporations to look at Israel anew as a place from which to export products worldwide. We will give NEP a chance to prove itself.

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